



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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10 JANUARY 1966

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LATE ITEM

India

Prime Minister Shastri's death again disrupts decision-making in Delhi at a time when major political and economic problems face the Indian leadership.

Home Minister G. L. Nanda, the second-ranking cabinet member, presumably will assume the prime ministry temporarily. However, Nanda has a very slim political base, is not widely liked, and will almost certainly be replaced as soon as the Congress Party bosses can decide on an acceptable successor to Shastri.

The essence of the bosses' problem will be to achieve a balance among India's regional forces. Relatively little consideration is likely to be given to foreign affairs aspects in the selection process.

Sanjiva Reddy, the present steel minister, and Defense Minister Y. B. Chavan would appear to be leading candidates.

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1. India-Pakistan

The Tashkent declaration signed today by Shastri and Ayub appears on its face to be a considerable success for Soviet diplomacy. The terms go considerably beyond what either India or Pakistan seemed prepared to concede when the meeting began a week ago.

This result is not likely to be affected immediately by Shastri's death, although this event probably complicates implementation.

The key section of the nine-point declaration is a pledge that each side will withdraw its troops to positions held on 5 August, when the Pakistanis began their massive infiltration of Kashmir. The withdrawal is scheduled for "not later than" 25 February, which leaves seven weeks for new difficulties to arise.

The agreement to a withdrawal may well come under heavy fire from hardliners in Delhi. Ayub too must face the critics, since he has in effect agreed to bury the hatchet without getting concessions on Kashmir.

The Soviets, however, should be well satisfied. Kosygin seems to have demonstrated skill as a mediator, and Moscow can point to itself as an Asian peacemaker in contrast to the "incendiary" role played by Peking.

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2. Vietnam

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3. Burundi

This morning the US ambassador and two members of his staff were "invited" to leave the country within 24 hours. As of last report, the government has rejected the ambassador's request for an extension of the 24-hour deadline.

There are some hints that the radical groups behind the anti-US move may also have in mind some action against the moderate but ineffectual Burundi king. The king is reported about to return from Europe, and the radicals seem to have looked on our embassy as one of his mainstays.

4. Rhodesia

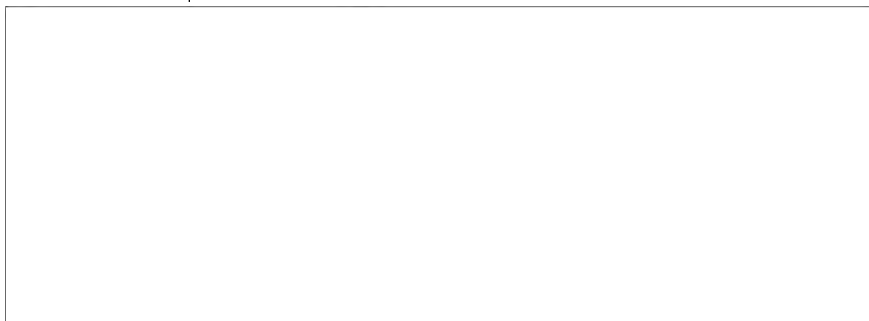
The British have shown us their scenario for the Commonwealth conference opening in Nigeria tomorrow. It indicates that Wilson hopes to get through the meeting without giving in to African pressure to announce stronger action against Rhodesia. Wilson flew to Lagos today.

Wilson's host, Prime Minister Balewa, has drafted an opening speech containing relatively firm demands on the British. For example, Balewa wants Wilson to announce at the conference a date when Rhodesia can become independent under black African rule. In the face of this sort of thing, Wilson could well come to feel that he has to make some more concessions.

In Lagos, the government is worried by threats from its local opponents to stage serious disturbances to coincide with the convening of the conference. The Lagos airport is situated in an area where dissident elements are especially active.

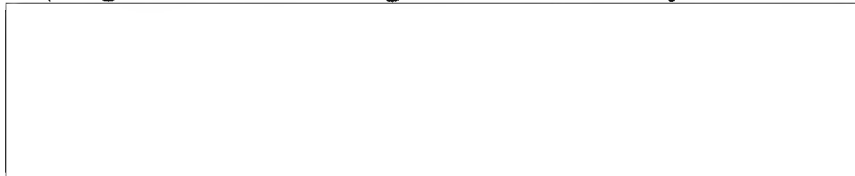
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5. Colombia



6. Venezuela

A scandal over the purchase of jet fighters from West Germany could bring to a boil the long simmering discontent among dissident rightist military officers.



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7. Dominican Republic

The situation began to slide downhill more rapidly today.

The general strike gathered strength late in the morning as government employees who had come to work left their offices and street disorders multiplied.

Heavily armed Dominican police and Inter-American Peace Force troops are patrolling downtown Santo Domingo. Shortly after noon, a firefight broke out in one section of the city when a security patrol tried to arrest some agitators and was ambushed.

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In Santiago, tanks have been arrayed on the airfield apron, and fighter planes have been armed with rockets.

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8. Indonesia

Various reports again point to the end of the Muslim fasting period, two weeks hence, as the time for another turn in the political situation.

Most of the talk is that Sukarno will then issue his much-heralded "political solution." Our embassy comments that if in fact Sukarno has something drafted, it clearly has not been approved by the army or by the revived non-Communist political parties.

A number of newspapers, including those controlled by the army, are still calling for the appointment of a vice president. This makes it look like Nasution is really a candidate for that job, despite his public disavowal.

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Student demonstrations, such as one in Djakarta today against Sukarno's third deputy premier, seem designed to build up more pressure for such a reorganization.

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